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JUDICIARY

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 20, 2011

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MB
Ownership

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St, SW
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I write in support of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) comprehensive review of its media ownership rules. I realize that such a review is a difficult task. As the process moves forward, I have a particular interest with the Commission's review of the radio rules.

I know the FCC will place a high priority on striking the right balance between fostering competition and protecting the public interest. One area in which I believe that the Commission could take affirmative steps involves the AM / FM subcap. Competitive realities and technological developments no longer make this portion of the local radio ownership rule necessary. Repealing the subcap rule would expand diversity in radio ownership and provide a pro-investment environment for the radio industry. Additionally, eliminating the subcap rule would help achieve these goals without increasing the overall number of stations that a single entity can own in any given market.

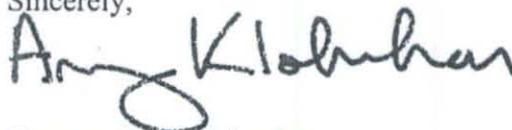
The expected outcome of repealing the AM / FM subcap will further the Commission's goal of making the airwaves available to a more diverse group of broadcast owners because there would be additional ownership opportunities, especially within the AM band. Generally, AM stations cost less than their FM counterparts, and financing such acquisitions is much easier for small businesses.

Repealing the AM / FM subcap would immediately lead to the injection of much needed investment. New investors would find opportunities to enter markets that had previously been completely closed off or had posed little opportunity beforehand. The result would be a revitalized market for radio stations.

I believe that eliminating the AM / FM subcap offers the FCC the ability to balance the reality of growing competition within the audio marketplace and protecting the public interest.

I appreciate your consideration, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Senator Amy Klobuchar



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 19, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's 2010 Quadrennial Review of its broadcast ownership rules and policies. Specifically, you urge the Commission to revise its local radio ownership rules to eliminate the subcaps on common ownership of AM and FM radio stations in the same market.

I appreciate your thoughts on this topic. The Commission is examining this issue as part of the Quadrennial Review and requested comment on the distinction between AM and FM stations in the rules establishing numerical limits on radio ownership in its May 2010 *Notice of Inquiry*. The Commission also contracted for several studies to evaluate economic and technological developments in the media marketplace since its last ownership review. The studies were completed recently and are available on the Commission's website, along with accompanying peer reviews.

I intend to circulate a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to my colleagues on the Commission in the near future. Your letter will be made a part of the record in the proceeding and the Commission will give careful consideration to your views.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Julius Genachowski